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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231 on or before the date shown below.

Jennifer D. Adamson

Date: May 3, 2001

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT UNDER 37 CFR 1.115

Prior to taking up the case for examination, please amend the application as follows: